heat and smarting on being first applied. I have cured cases of psora with the ointment, and Dr. Hayward states, that he found it successful in cases where sulphur had failed. A case of tinia capitis of twelve years' standing, which had resisted various kinds of treatment, was also cured by this application.

The Phytolacca is one of those vegetables which has had its temporary reputation for the cure of cancer. For this purpose it has been resorted to in various parts of the world, and many men of science have been convicts to its efficacy, among whom were Dr. Colden and Dr. Franklin of our country. [*Note* E.] But like other vegetable specifics for cancer, it owes its character to an imperfect discrimination of that disease, and a misapplication of the name. All that can be strictly inferred from the various accounts we have had on this subject, is, that the plant has often proved useful in malignant ulcers by its stimulating and almost escharotic effects, frequently producing an eschar, and thus altering the condition of the ulcerated surface.

For internal use no preparation of the Phytolacca is to be preferred to the powder, of which from ten to fifteen grains is often a sufficient emetic.

The root should be dug late in autumn or during the winter. It should be cut in transverse slices and dried. After being pulverized, it is to be kept in close stopped phials. The stock should be annually renewed, as its activity is impaired by age.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Phytolacca decandra, Linnæus, *sp. pl.*—Aiton, *Hort. Kew.* ii. 122.—*Botanical Magazine, t.* 931.—Michaux, *Fl. Amer.* i. 278. Pursh. i. 324.—Phytolacca vulgaris, Dillenius, *Hort. Elth. t.* 239.—P. Americana—Boerhaave, *Hort. Lug.* ii. 70.—Solanum racemosum Americanum, Raius, *Hist.* 662.—Plukenet, *Phyt. t.* 225. *f.* 3.—Solanum magnum Virginianum rubrum, Parkinson, *Theatrum*, 347.—Blitum Americanum, Muntingius, *Phyt. cur. t.* 212.

MEDICAL REFERENCES.

Murray, *appar. med.* iv. 335.—Kalm, *travels in N. Amer.* i. 197.—Graffenreid, *Mem. Berne*, iii. 185.—Schœpf. 71.—Browne, *Hist. Jamaica*, 232.—*Amœn. Acad.* iv.—Miller, *Dict. under the name.*—Sprogel. *Diss. cir. ven.* 24.—Beckman, *comment. Gotting.* 1779, 74.—Allioni, *Flor. Ped.* ii. 132.—Franklin, *works, vol.* i.—Cutler, *Mem. Amer. Acad.* i. 447.—Rush, i. 259.—Thacher, *Disp.* 300.—Shultz, *Inaugural thesis.*—Hayward, *N. Engl. Journal*, vi.

PLATE III.

Fig. 1. *Phytolacca decandra in flower and in fruit.*

Fig. 2. *Section of a berry.*